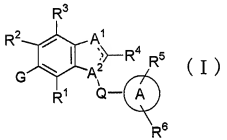
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A fused heterocyclic derivative represented by the following general formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R^1 to R^4 independently represent a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a halogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a cyano group, a carboxy group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a carbamoyl group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a cyano(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a carboxy(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a carbamoyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, an amino(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a carboxy(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a carbamoyl(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, an amino(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl group, a C_{3-7} cycloalkyloxy group, a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group;

R^5 and R^6 independently represent a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group, a halogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{2-6} alkynyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenyloxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a C_{2-6} alkenylthio group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a hydroxy(C_{2-6} alkenyl) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, a carboxy group, a carboxy(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a carboxy(C_{2-6} alkenyl) group, a carboxy(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a carboxy(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl(C_{2-6} alkenyl) group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfinyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, -U-V-W-N(R^7)-Z or any of the following substituents (i) to (xxviii) which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from the later identified substituent group α on the ring;

(i) a C_{6-10} aryl group, (ii) C_{6-10} aryl-O-, (iii) C_{6-10} aryl-S-, (iv) a C_{6-10} aryl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, (v) a C_{6-10} aryl(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, (vi) a C_{6-10} aryl(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, (vii) a heteroaryl group, (viii) heteroaryl-O-, (ix) heteroaryl-S-, (x) a heteroaryl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, (xi) a heteroaryl(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, (xii) a heteroaryl(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, (xiii) a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl group, (xiv) C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-O-, (xv) C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-S-, (xvi) a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, (xvii) a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, (xviii) a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, (xix) a heterocycloalkyl group, (xx) heterocycloalkyl-O-, (xxi) heterocycloalkyl-S-, (xxii) a heterocycloalkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, (xxiii) a heterocycloalkyl(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, (xxiv) a heterocycloalkyl(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, (xxv) an aromatic cyclic amino group, (xxvi) an aromatic cyclic amino(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, (xxvii) an aromatic cyclic amino(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, or (xxviii) an aromatic cyclic amino(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group,

U represents -O-, -S- or a single bond and with the proviso that at least one of V and W is not a single bond when U is –O- or –S-);

V represents a C_{1-6} alkylene group which may have a hydroxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenylene group or a single bond;

W represents -CO-, $-SO_2-$, -C(=NH)- or a single bond;

Z represents a hydrogen atom, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl(C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl) group, a formyl group, $-R^A$, $-COR^B$, $-SO_2R^B$, $-CON(R^C)R^D$, $-CSN(R^C)R^D$, $-SO_2NHR^A$ or $-C(=NR^E)N(R^F)R^G$;

R^7, R^A, R^C and R^D independently represent a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group which may have any 1 to 5 groups selected from the later identified substituent group β, or any of the following substituents (xxix) to (xxxii) which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from the later identified substituent group α;

(xxix) a C_{6-10} aryl group, (xxx) a heteroaryl group, (xxxi) a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl group or (xxxii) a heterocycloalkyl group

or Z and R^7 bind together with the neighboring nitrogen atom to form an aliphatic cyclic amino group which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from the following substituent group α;

or R^C and R^D bind together with the neighboring nitrogen atom to form an aliphatic cyclic amino group which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from the later identified substituent group α;

R^B represents a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino group, a C_{6-10} arylsulfonylamino group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group which may have any 1 to 5 groups selected from the later identified substituent group β or any of the following substituents (xxxiii) to (xxxvi) which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from the later identified substituent group α;

(xxxiii) a C_{6-10} aryl group, (xxxiv) a heteroaryl group, (xxxv) a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl group or (xxxvi) a heterocycloalkyl group,

R^E, R^F and R^G independently represent a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a carbamoyl group, a C_{2-7} acyl group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl(C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl) group, a nitro group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a sulfamide group, a carbamimidoyl group, or a C_{1-6} alkyl group which may have any 1 to 5 groups selected from the later identified substituent group β;

or both of R^E and R^F bind together to form an ethylene group;

or both of R^F and R^G bind together with the neighboring nitrogen atom to form an aliphatic cyclic amino group which may have any substituent selected from the later identified substituent group α;

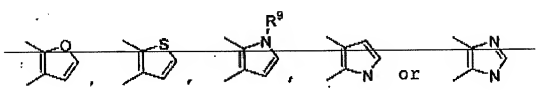
Q represents -C_{1-6} alkylene-, -C_{2-6} alkenylene-, -C_{2-6} alkynylene-, -C_{1-6} alkylene-O-, -C_{1-6} alkylene-S-, -O-C_{1-6} alkylene-, -S-C_{1-6} alkylene-, -C_{1-6} alkylene-O-C_{1-6} alkylene-, -C_{1-6} alkylene-S-C_{1-6} alkylene-, -CON(R^8)-, -N(R^8)CO-, -C_{1-6} alkylene-CON(R^8)- or –CON(R^8)-C_{1-6} alkylene-;

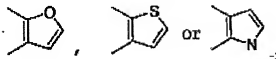
R^8 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group;

ring A represents a C_{6-10} aryl group or a heteroaryl group;

the ring:

represents

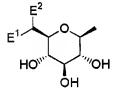




;

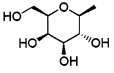
~~wherein R^9 represents a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl group or a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group;~~

G represents a group represented by a formula:



(G-1)

or a formula:



(G-2)

;

E^1 represents a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a hydroxy group;

E^2 represents a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom, a methyl group or a hydroxymethyl group;

substituent group α:

a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkoxy)group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, an amino(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, an amino(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino group, a mono or di[hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl)]amino group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a carboxy group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a sulfamoyl group and -CON(R^H)R^1

substituent group β:

a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, an amino(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, an amino(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino group, a mono or di[hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl)]amino group, an ureido group, a sulfamide group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)ureido group, a mono or di[hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl)]ureido group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)sulfamide group, a mono or di[hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl)]-sulfamide group, a C_{2-7} acylamino group, an amino(C_{2-7} acylamino) group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino group, a carbamoyl(C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino) group, a carboxy group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, -CON(R^H)R^I, and any of the following substituents (xxxvii) to (xxxxviii) which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from the above substituent group α on the ring;

(xxxvii) a C_{6-10} aryl group, (xxxviii) C_{6-10} aryl-O-, (xxxix) a C_{6-10} aryl(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, (xxxx) a C_{6-10} aryl(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, (xxxxi) a heteroaryl group, (xxxxii) heteroaryl-O-, (xxxxiii) a C_{3-7} cycloalkyl group, (xxxxiv) C_{3-7} cycloalkyl-O-, (xxxxv) a heterocycloalkyl group, (xxxxvi) heterocycloalkyl-O-, (xxxxvii) an aliphatic cyclic amino group or (xxxxviii) an aromatic cyclic amino group

R^H and R^I independently represent a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from the later identified substituent group γ;

or both of R^H and R^I bind together with the neighboring nitrogen atom to form an aliphatic cyclic amino group which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from the later identified substituent group δ;

substituent group γ:

a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, an amino(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino group, a mono or di[hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl)]amino group, an ureido group, a sulfamide group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)ureido group, a mono or di[hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl)]ureido group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)sulfamide group, a mono or di[hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl)]sulfamide group, a C_{2-7} acylamino group, an amino(C_{2-7} acylamino) group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino group, a carbamoyl(C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino) group, a carboxy group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a sulfamoyl group and $-CON(R^J)R^K$

substituent group δ:

a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, an amino(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, an amino(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino group, a mono or di[hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl)]amino group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a carboxy group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a sulfamoyl group and $-CON(R^J)R^K$

R^J and R^K independently represent a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from a hydroxy group, an amino group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;

or both of R^J and R^K bind together with the neighboring nitrogen atom to form an aliphatic cyclic amino group which may have any 1 to 3 groups selected from a hydroxy group, an amino group, a mono or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl)

group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{2-7} alkoxycarbonyl(C_{1-6} alkyl) group and a carbamoyl group,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (previously presented): A fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, wherein Q represents a methylene group, an ethylene group, $-OCH_2-$, $-CH_2O-$, $-SCH_2-$ or $-CH_2S-$, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (previously presented): A fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 2, wherein Q represents an ethylene group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (previously presented): A fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 2, wherein Q represents a methylene group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. (previously presented): A fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ring:

represents

, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. (previously presented): A fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ring:

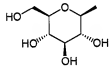
represents

, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. (previously presented): A fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^5 and R^6 independently represent a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group, a halogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{2-6} alkynyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenyloxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a C_{2-6} alkenylthio group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group, a halo(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkyl) group, a hydroxy(C_{2-6} alkenyl) group, a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkoxy) group or a hydroxy(C_{1-6} alkylthio) group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. (previously presented): A fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 5, wherein the ring A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. (previously presented): A fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, wherein G represents a group represented by the formula:



, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient a fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. (previously presented): A human SGLT inhibitor comprising as an active ingredient a fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. (previously presented): A human SGLT inhibitor as claimed in claim 11, wherein the SGLT is SGLT1 and/or SGLT2.

13. (original): A human SGLT inhibitor as claimed in claim 11, which is an agent for the inhibition of postprandial hyperglycemia.

14. (canceled).

15. (previously presented): A human SGLT inhibitor as claimed in claim 11, which is an agent for the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance, diabetic complications, obesity, hyperinsulinemia, hyperlipidemia, hypercholesterolemia, hypertriglyceridemia, lipid metabolism disorder, atherosclerosis, hypertension, congestive heart failure, edema, hyperuricemia and gout.

16. (original): A human SGLT inhibitor as claimed in claim 11, which is an agent for the inhibition of advancing impaired glucose tolerance into diabetes in a subject.

17. (previously presented): The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 10, which is a sustained release formulation.

18. (previously presented): The human SGLT inhibitor as claimed in claim 11, which is a sustained release formulation.

19. (withdrawn): A method for the inhibition of postprandial hyperglycemia, which comprises administering an effective amount of a fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a prodrug thereof.

20. (withdrawn): A method for the prevention or treatment of a disease associated with hyperglycemia, which comprises administering an effective amount of a fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a prodrug thereof.

21. (withdrawn): A method for the prevention or treatment as claimed in claim 20, wherein the disease associated with hyperglycemia is a disease selected from the group consisting of diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance, diabetic complications, obesity, hyperinsulinemia, hyperlipidemia, hypercholesterolemia, hypertriglyceridemia, lipid metabolism disorder, atherosclerosis, hypertension, congestive heart failure, edema, hyperuricemia and gout.

22. (withdrawn): A method for the inhibition of advancing impaired glucose tolerance into diabetes in a subject, which comprises administering an effective amount of a fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a prodrug thereof.

23-26. (canceled).

27. (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 10, which comprises combination with at least one member selected from the group consisting of an insulin sensitivity enhancer, a glucose absorption inhibitor, a biguanide, an insulin secretion enhancer, a SGLT2 inhibitor, an insulin, a glucagon receptor antagonist, an insulin receptor kinase stimulant, a tripeptidyl peptidase II inhibitor, a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor, a protein tyrosine phosphatase-1B inhibitor, a glycogen phosphorylase inhibitor, a glucose-6-phosphatase inhibitor, a fructose-bisphosphatase inhibitor, a pyruvate dehydrogenase inhibitor, a hepatic gluconeogenesis inhibitor, D-chiroinsitol, a glycogen synthase kinase-3 inhibitor, glucagon-like peptide-1, a glucagon-like peptide-1 agonist, amylin, an amylin agonist, an aldose reductase inhibitor, an advanced glycation endproducts formation inhibitor, a protein kinase C inhibitor, a γ-aminobutyric acid receptor antagonist, a sodium channel antagonist, a transcript factor NF-κB inhibitor, a lipid peroxidase inhibitor, an *N*-acetylated-α-linked-acid-dipeptidase inhibitor, insulin-like growth factor-I, platelet-derived growth factor, epidermal growth factor, nerve

growth factor, uridine, 5-hydroxy-1-methylhydantoin, EGB-761, bimoclomol, sulodexide, Y-128, an antidiarrhoic, cathartics, a hydroxymethylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase inhibitor, a fibrate, a β3-adrenoceptor agonist, an acyl-coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase inhibitor, probcol, a thyroid hormone receptor agonist, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a lipase inhibitor, a microsomal triglyceride transfer protein inhibitor, a lipoxygenase inhibitor, a carnitine palmitoyl-transferase inhibitor, a squalene synthase inhibitor, a low-density lipoprotein receptor enhancer, a bile acid sequestrant, a sodium/bile acid cotransporter inhibitor, a cholesterol ester transfer protein inhibitor, an appetite suppressant, an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor, a neutral endopeptidase inhibitor, an angiotensin II receptor antagonist, an endothelin-converting enzyme inhibitor, an endothelin receptor antagonist, a diuretic agent, a calcium antagonist, a vasodilating antihypertensive agent, a sympathetic blocking agent, a centrally acting antihypertensive agent, an α_2-adrenoceptor agonist, an antiplatelets agent, a uric acid synthesis inhibitor, a uricosuric agent and a urinary alkalinizer.

28. (previously presented): A human SGLT inhibitor as claimed in claim 11, which comprises combination with at least one member selected from the group consisting of an insulin sensitivity enhancer, a glucose absorption inhibitor, a biguanide, an insulin secretion enhancer, a SGLT2 inhibitor, an insulin, a glucagon receptor antagonist, an insulin receptor kinase stimulant, a tripeptidyl peptidase II inhibitor, a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor, a protein tyrosine phosphatase-1B inhibitor, a glycogen phosphorylase inhibitor, a glucose-6-phosphatase inhibitor, a fructose-bisphosphatase inhibitor, a pyruvate dehydrogenase inhibitor, a hepatic gluconeogenesis inhibitor, D-chiroinsitol, a glycogen synthase kinase-3 inhibitor, glucagon-like peptide-1, a glucagon-like peptide-1 agonist, amylin, an amylin agonist, an aldose reductase inhibitor, an advanced glycation endproducts formation inhibitor, a protein kinase C inhibitor, a

γ-aminobutyric acid receptor antagonist, a sodium channel antagonist, a transcript factor NF-κB inhibitor, a lipid peroxidase inhibitor, an *N*-acetylated-α-linked-acid-dipeptidase inhibitor, insulin-like growth factor-I, platelet-derived growth factor, epidermal growth factor, nerve growth factor, uridine, 5-hydroxy-1-methylhydantoin, EGB-761, bimoclomol, sulodexide, Y-128, an antidiarrhoic, cathartics, a hydroxymethylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase inhibitor, a fibrate, a β_3-adrenoceptor agonist, an acyl-coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase inhibitor, probcol, a thyroid hormone receptor agonist, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a lipase inhibitor, a microsomal triglyceride transfer protein inhibitor, a lipoxygenase inhibitor, a carnitine palmitoyl-transferase inhibitor, a squalene synthase inhibitor, a low-density lipoprotein receptor enhancer, a bile acid sequestrant, a sodium/bile acid cotransporter inhibitor, a cholesterol ester transfer protein inhibitor, an appetite suppressant, an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor, a neutral endopeptidase inhibitor, an angiotensin II receptor antagonist, an endothelin-converting enzyme inhibitor, an endothelin receptor antagonist, a diuretic agent, a calcium antagonist, a vasodilating antihypertensive agent, a sympathetic blocking agent, a centrally acting antihypertensive agent, an α_2-adrenoceptor agonist, an antiplatelets agent, a uric acid synthesis inhibitor, a uricosuric agent and a urinary alkalinizer.

29. (withdrawn): A method for the inhibition of postprandial hyperglycemia as claimed in claim 19, which comprises administering in combination with at least one member selected from the group consisting of an insulin sensitivity enhancer, a glucose absorption inhibitor, a biguanide, an insulin secretion enhancer, a SGLT2 inhibitor, an insulin or insulin analogue, a glucagon receptor antagonist, an insulin receptor kinase stimulant, a tripeptidyl peptidase II inhibitor, a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor, a protein tyrosine phosphatase-1B inhibitor, a glycogen phosphorylase inhibitor, a glucose-6-phosphatase inhibitor, a fructose-

bisphosphatase inhibitor, a pyruvate dehydrogenase inhibitor, a hepatic gluconeogenesis inhibitor, D-chiroinsitol, a glycogen synthase kinase-3 inhibitor, glucagon-like peptide-1, a glucagon-like peptide-1 analogue, a glucagon-like peptide-1 agonist, amylin, an amylin analogue, an amylin agonist, an aldose reductase inhibitor, an advanced glycation endproducts formation inhibitor, a protein kinase C inhibitor, a γ-aminobutyric acid receptor antagonist, a sodium channel antagonist, a transcript factor NF-κB inhibitor, a lipid peroxidase inhibitor, an *N*-acetylated-α-linked-acid-dipeptidase inhibitor, insulin-like growth factor-I, platelet-derived growth factor, a platelet-derived growth factor analogue, epidermal growth factor, nerve growth factor, a carnitine derivative, uridine, 5-hydroxy-1-methylhydantoin, EGB-761, bimoclomol, sulodexide, Y-128, an antidiarrhoics, cathartics, a hydroxymethylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase inhibitor, a fibrate, a β3-adrenoceptor agonist, an acyl-coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase inhibitor, probcol, a thyroid hormone receptor agonist, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a lipase inhibitor, a microsomal triglyceride transfer protein inhibitor, a lipoxygenase inhibitor, a carnitine palmitoyl-transferase inhibitor, a squalene synthase inhibitor, a low-density lipoprotein receptor enhancer, a nicotinic acid derivative, a bile acid sequestrant, a sodium/bile acid cotransporter inhibitor, a cholesterol ester transfer protein inhibitor, an appetite suppressant, an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor, a neutral endopeptidase inhibitor, an angiotensin II receptor antagonist, an endothelin-converting enzyme inhibitor, an endothelin receptor antagonist, a diuretic agent, a calcium antagonist, a vasodilating antihypertensive agent, a sympathetic blocking agent, a centrally acting antihypertensive agent, an α_2-adrenoceptor agonist, an antiplatelets agent, a uric acid synthesis inhibitor, a uricosuric agent and a urinary alkalinizer.

30. (withdrawn): A method for the prevention or treatment of a disease associated with hyperglycemia as claimed in claim 20, which comprises administering in combination with at least one member selected from the group consisting of an insulin sensitivity enhancer, a glucose absorption inhibitor, a biguanide, an insulin secretion enhancer, a SGLT2 inhibitor, an insulin or insulin analogue, a glucagon receptor antagonist, an insulin receptor kinase stimulant, a tripeptidyl peptidase II inhibitor, a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor, a protein tyrosine phosphatase-1B inhibitor, a glycogen phosphorylase inhibitor, a glucose-6-phosphatase inhibitor, a fructose-bisphosphatase inhibitor, a pyruvate dehydrogenase inhibitor, a hepatic gluconeogenesis inhibitor, D-chiroinsitol, a glycogen synthase kinase-3 inhibitor, glucagon-like peptide-1, a glucagon-like peptide-1 analogue, a glucagon-like peptide-1 agonist, amylin, an amylin analogue, an amylin agonist, an aldose reductase inhibitor, an advanced glycation endproducts formation inhibitor, a protein kinase C inhibitor, a γ-aminobutyric acid receptor antagonist, a sodium channel antagonist, a transcript factor NF-κB inhibitor, a lipid peroxidase inhibitor, an *N*-acetylated-α-linked-acid-dipeptidase inhibitor, insulin-like growth factor-I, platelet-derived growth factor, a platelet-derived growth factor analogue, epidermal growth factor, nerve growth factor, a carnitine derivative, uridine, 5-hydroxy-1-methylhydantoin, EGB-761, bimoclomol, sulodexide, Y-128, an antidiarrhoics, cathartics, a hydroxymethylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase inhibitor, a fibrate, a β3-adrenoceptor agonist, an acyl-coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase inhibitor, probcol, a thyroid hormone receptor agonist, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a lipase inhibitor, a microsomal triglyceride transfer protein inhibitor, a lipoxygenase inhibitor, a carnitine palmitoyl-transferase inhibitor, a squalene synthase inhibitor, a low-density lipoprotein receptor enhancer, a nicotinic acid derivative, a bile acid sequestrant, a sodium/bile acid cotransporter inhibitor, a cholesterol ester transfer protein inhibitor, an appetite

suppressant, an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor, a neutral endopeptidase inhibitor, an angiotensin II receptor antagonist, an endothelin-converting enzyme inhibitor, an endothelin receptor antagonist, a diuretic agent, a calcium antagonist, a vasodilating antihypertensive agent, a sympathetic blocking agent, a centrally acting antihypertensive agent, an α_2-adrenoceptor agonist, an antiplatelets agent, a uric acid synthesis inhibitor, a uricosuric agent and a urinary alkalinizer.

31. (withdrawn): A method for the inhibition of advancing impaired glucose tolerance into diabetes in a subject as claimed in claim 21, which comprises administering in combination with at least one member selected from the group consisting of an insulin sensitivity enhancer, a glucose absorption inhibitor, a biguanide, an insulin secretion enhancer, a SGLT2 inhibitor, an insulin or insulin analogue, a glucagon receptor antagonist, an insulin receptor kinase stimulant, a tripeptidyl peptidase II inhibitor, a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor, a protein tyrosine phosphatase-1B inhibitor, a glycogen phosphorylase inhibitor, a glucose-6-phosphatase inhibitor, a fructose-bisphosphatase inhibitor, a pyruvate dehydrogenase inhibitor, a hepatic gluconeogenesis inhibitor, D-chiroinsitol, a glycogen synthase kinase-3 inhibitor, glucagon-like peptide-1, a glucagon-like peptide-1 analogue, a glucagon-like peptide-1 agonist, amylin, an amylin analogue, an amylin agonist, an aldose reductase inhibitor, an advanced glycation endproducts formation inhibitor, a protein kinase C inhibitor, a γ-aminobutyric acid receptor antagonist, a sodium channel antagonist, a transcript factor NF-κB inhibitor, a lipid peroxidase inhibitor, an *N*-acetylated-α-linked-acid-dipeptidase inhibitor, insulin-like growth factor-I, platelet-derived growth factor, a platelet-derived growth factor analogue, epidermal growth factor, nerve growth factor, a carnitine derivative, uridine, 5-hydroxy-1-methylhydantoin, EGB-761, bimoclomol, sulodexide, Y-128, an antidiarrhoics, cathartics, a hydroxymethylglutaryl

coenzyme A reductase inhibitor, a fibrate, a β3-adrenoceptor agonist, an acyl-coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase inhibitor, probcol, a thyroid hormone receptor agonist, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a lipase inhibitor, a microsomal triglyceride transfer protein inhibitor, a lipoxygenase inhibitor, a carnitine palmitoyl-transferase inhibitor, a squalene synthase inhibitor, a low-density lipoprotein receptor enhancer, a nicotinic acid derivative, a bile acid sequestrant, a sodium/bile acid cotransporter inhibitor, a cholesterol ester transfer protein inhibitor, an appetite suppressant, an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor, a neutral endopeptidase inhibitor, an angiotensin II receptor antagonist, an endothelin-converting enzyme inhibitor, an endothelin receptor antagonist, a diuretic agent, a calcium antagonist, a vasodilating antihypertensive agent, a sympathetic blocking agent, a centrally acting antihypertensive agent, an α_2-adrenoceptor agonist, an antiplatelets agent, a uric acid synthesis inhibitor, a uricosuric agent and a urinary alkalinizer.

32-34. (canceled).

35. (previously presented): A fused heterocyclic derivative as claimed in claim 6, wherein the ring A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.